

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01

USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 L-03 H-03 DRC-01 /117 W

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P R 110029Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1922

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 5506

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, SWEL, ZA

SUBJ: POSSIBLE ZAMBIAN WHEAT SHORTAGE

1. OFFICE OF UNSYG ROBERT JACKSON HAS GIVEN USUN TEXT
OF CABLE RECEIVED FROM UNDP RESREP IN LUSAKA. TEST
ALSO GIVEN TO CANADIANS.

2. TEXT OF CABLE IS AS FOLLOWS: "ZAMBIA FACES TOTAL
DEPLETION WHEAT STOCKS FOR AT LEAST 2 WEEKS POSSIBLY
ONGER IN FEBRUARY 1974 DUE TO WORLD CHARTERING AND
BUNKERING PROBLEMS. NYONI WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL IF ANY
INTERVENTION--AT YOUR DISCRETION--IS POSSIBLE BY YOU.

"AAA. IMMEDIATE CUT BACK BREAD AND FLOW SALES BY 10
PERCENT WILL DEplete CURRENT WHEAT STOCKS ON 18 FEBRUARY.

"BBB. PREVIOUS ARRANGEMENT HAD BEEN FOR VESSEL AFRICAN
SPLENDOUR CARRYING WHEAT FOR ZAMBIA DEPART AUSTRALIA
17 DECEMBER ARRIVE LOBITO 14 JANUARY, THEN ABOUT 15
DAYS SAILING TIME. THIS WOULD MEAN STOCKS WOULD
FALL TO 2-WEEK SUPPLY AT TIME OF REPLENISHMENT.

"CCC. NOW ADVISED AFRICAN SPLENDOUR HAS BEEN DELAYRED WILL
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NOT ARRIVE IN AUSTRALIA UNTIL EARLY JANUARY AND
CANNOT ARRIVE LOBITO BEFORE MID-FEBRUARY EARLIEST.

THEREFORE WITH 2 WEEKS SAILING TIME MINIMUM PERIOD
COUNTRY TOTALLY OUT OF STOCK WILL BE 2-WEEKS.

"DDD. FURTHER SERIOUS PROBLEM IS THAT CHARTER IF SUBJECT
TO AVAILABILITY BUNKERING IN AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH
AFRICA. IT APPEARS THAT CHARTER OWNERS ARE NOW REQUESTING
CHARTERERS TO ENSURE BUNKERING FACILITIES WHICH ZAMBIA
UNABLE TO GUARANTEE. THUS POSSIBILITY EXISTS THIS CHARTER
MAY NOT MATERIALIZE AT ALL RESULTING IN FURTHER
LENGTHY PERIOD DOMESTIC STOCK OUT.

"EEE. ZAMBIA'S AGENT FOR ARRANGING CHARTER IS THE
"AUSTRALIAN WHEAT COMMITTEE" IN LONDON.

"FFF. IS IT POSSIBLE YOU CONTACT THIS COMMITTEE BRINGING
PRESSURE TO BEAR EITHER.

"PRIMO. SPEED UP SAILING AFRICAN SPLENDOR OR
"SECUNDO. HAVE THEM ARRANGE ANOTHER VESSEL FOR EARLIER
DELIVERY. IN EITHER CASE PROBLEM OF BUNKERING GUARANTEE
REMAINS. IS IT POSSIBLE REQUEST COMMITTEE ARRANGE THIS
OR ARE THERE ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVES IN VIEW ZAMBIA'S
INABILITY PROVIDE?"

3. JACKSON'S OFFICE ASKED IF U.S. COULD DIVERT SHIPPING
TO EITHER LIBITO, DAR ES SALAAM, OR MOMBASA IN ORDER TO
PROVIDE NECESSARY FOOD STOCKS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. ACTION REQUESTED. INFORM USUN ON URGENT BASIS IF
USG IS IN POSITION TO ASSIST IN ALLEVIATION OF SHORTAGE
SITUATION.
BENNETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOOD SHORTAGE, WHEAT, EXPORTS, SHIPS, FOOD ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973USUNN05506
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731231/aaaaawhx.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09-Oct-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <13-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POSSIBLE ZAMBIAN WHEAT SHORTAGE
TAGS: SWEL, ZA, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005